

SEPTEMBER 2026

**“Rejoice in the Lord always.
I will say it again: Rejoice!
Philippians Chapter 4**

**Come and celebrate harvest on
Sunday 20th September**

**Our monthly newsletter to help keep you up to date
with everything that is going on in and around
Cornerstone Church.**

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A note from the Editor

This is my first edition, pulling together all the information needed for the newsletter. It will look a bit different, not necessarily because I wanted to make it different, but there was a lot of information to be juggled about and fitted in.

September is upon us and the autumn months are following fast, that is hard to believe with the sun still shining. September brings a new term and many of the church activities are starting again. Our Harvest festival is on Sunday 20th. Make sure you get the dates in your diary.

You may notice that I have not included a contents page, but I hope the articles are grouped together in a useful sequence.

I would like the information not merely to be useful to you as a regular attendee at Cornerstone but also be a newsletter that you would continue to feel proud to pass onto someone else and say: 'This is us, come and join in with something.'

So as you read the newsletter think about items that are helpful to you and others. Perhaps you have ideas of things that could be included. I will be pleased to receive any feedback.

If you have any articles that you wish to be included please either email attachments to me, or I am very happy to receive paper copies. No need to format or arrange the text, I will do that.

with thanks *Louise Shrubsole*

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

**The deadline for the October issue is Sunday 20th September
for publication on Sunday 27th October**

Email: newsletter@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk
or leave paper copies in the church office.

from our minister ...

..... Joshua

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter to you with our Harvest service on the near horizon (Sunday 20th September at 10:30am), I feel it is wholly appropriate to write it with Harvest in mind. Consequently, while reflecting on what I ought to specifically write, I thought it was equally worthwhile to share with you the seasonally appropriate theme of Immanuel Church's recent café service that reflected on the topic of gratitude and asked the question "are we a thankful people?"

In Luke 17:11-19 we read about how Jesus healed 10 men from leprosy. These 10 men appealed to Jesus asking Him to have pity on them in their poor physical condition. Jesus' response involved no razzmatazz. Instead He simply instructed the 10 men to go and show themselves to the priests. Now, this was wholly appropriate in and of itself, because the Law gave explicit instructions that people with skin diseases like leprosy could only be made clean by undergoing certain rites of passage which involved the priests (see Leviticus 14). However, Luke 17:14 then tells us that the men then were cleansed **"as they went..."** to the priests. In this specific instance, the men didn't need the mediation of the priests, they only needed Jesus! A wonderful truth for all of us.

Now, upon seeing that they were healed the 10 men responded in contrasting ways. 9 of the 10 men appeared to go on their merry way. On the other hand 1 of the 10 goes back to Jesus praising God, falling down at Jesus' feet in a state of worshipful thanksgiving. Jesus then leaves us with a simple question, **"were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other 9?"**

In this one event we witness two separate responses. Gratitude and ingratitude. All 10 men started off sick and unclean. All 10 men left their encounter with Jesus better. However, only one man chose to respond with thankfulness. So it was, that these

contrasting responses turns Jesus' question into a direct challenge. For with this question comes an admission – gratitude is a choice! It sometimes takes us a little longer to be grateful sometimes due to the circumstances we are in, but we can decide to be thankful. And this is a Biblical truth that echoes throughout Scripture.

For example, Psalm 34 was written by David during a time when he was being pursued by a vengeful King Saul, and he was caused to pretend to be insane, and then run away to Gath, one of the Philistine cities. Yet, with all of this going on in his life, he chose to write the following:

**“I will extol the Lord at all times;
His praise will always be on my lips.
I will glory in the Lord;
Let the afflicted hear and rejoice.”**

Despite his hard times David makes a decision to give thanks and praise to God regardless.

Similarly Paul writes in Philippians 4:

**“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again:
Rejoice!**

Circumstances may differ, circumstances may be the same, but in each and all we can choose to be thankful. The question is, what do we draw on to help us be thankful when seasons are less favourable?

And in response to such a question all we can do is to follow the example of the one leper who gave thanks – we go back to Jesus. For in the end Jesus died for us so that we each may be forgiven and enabled to be in right relationship with God. So, in all seasons, good and bad, we are able to always take ourselves back to the one who saved us and give thanks and praise.

So are we a thankful people? We can choose to be!

Every Blessing
Rev'd Joshua Norris

HARVEST CELEBRATION

Sunday 20th September

A service for All Ages
10.30 am



Come and give thanks



Come and eat together

Baked Potato Harvest Lunch
will follow the morning worship.

To facilitate catering please add your name to the list on the foyer bar, if you are able to come, and indicate which baked potato filling you would like. Additionally please indicate if you can bring a fruit pie to share.

Come and share



Harvest offerings both monetary and longlife/tinned produce will go to support the Waterside Foodbank. Please ensure it is well in date.

Foodbank is short of the following items but will welcome all donations

400g tinned potatoes

Ginger cake

400g tinned rice pudding

Sponge pudding

100g coffee

Tinned fruit

40's tea bags

UHT milk 1 litre and 500 ml

300g tinned carrots

Toiletries (shampoo, toothpaste etc)



Global week of prayer is a 24/7 prayer initiative, designed to unite the Globe in night and day non stop prayer—for an entire week.

Our local event will be held at:

**Cornerstone Church
(Hythe United Reformed Church)
in the Worship Area
from Monday 7th to Saturday 12th September
8 am to 8 pm each day**

The theme this year is
‘At the name of Jesus’

There will be prayer stations set up for you to engage in prayer creatively.

Each evening will end with corporate prayer and worship.

Please drop in at any time.

*“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.”
Philippians 2:9-11 NIV*

This local event has been
organised by the





Foundation and Intermediate SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Saturday 9 January 2027

Cornerstone Hythe URC

New Road, Hythe, SO45 6BR

10am - 4pm

(arrivals and registration from 9:30am)

A full day's training for all individuals working with children, young people and adults at risk, including Ministers and Elders of the church.

The course (Foundation and Intermediate) covers:

- **Policy and Procedures**
- **Legal, Statutory and URC expectations for Elders/Trustees**
- **Risk management** (including planning for on-site, off-site and online)
- **Safer Recruitment**
- **Roles and responsibilities, support and accountability**
- **Types of Abuse**
- **Recognising and responding to concern (the 4 Rs)**
- **Building a healthy safeguarding culture**
- **Exploring Contextual Safeguarding**

Certificates are presented to those completing this training course.

Refreshments are provided for coffee and tea breaks.

Please bring a packed lunch with you for the lunchtime break.

For more information please contact:

development@urcwessex.org.uk / 023 8067 4513

Bookings: www.urcwessex.org.uk/safeguarding

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING continued

CORNERSTONE update

Wendy Tustian (Safeguarding Co-Ordinator) at Cornerstone holds a summary of what Safeguarding training has been completed and future training needs. Wendy will be confirming with you if there is an expectation that you need to attend but do contact her if you have any questions.

In 2025 the URC General Assembly adopted an updated training framework which provides greater clarity around safeguarding training requirements for our various roles within the Church.

Their advice is that Safeguarding Training should be updated every 3 or 4 years. After a gap of 5 years or longer the Foundation and Intermediate courses should be repeated.

The last training day held at Cornerstone was on 30th April 2022. Therefore, the Synod's training team has kindly agreed to offer another training day on **Saturday 9th January 2027. Please reserve that date in your diary now.**

Safeguarding courses are being held all around the URC Wessex Province so we are very fortunate that one is being held in Hythe.

Full details are on the attached poster.

Wendy Tustian

07584 200 509 safeguarding@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

A message from Pamela

CORNERSTONE FLOWERS

I have great pleasure organising the church flowers each week and hope that you all enjoy them. **There are still some dates available this year so please let me know if you would like to fill one of them**
October 26th November 1st and 8th December 13th



20th September is our harvest weekend, and if you would like to make a donation towards the flowers for that Sunday, please let me know.

People donate the flowers for many reasons: in memory of a loved one, a birthday or anniversary, a celebration, or just to give thanks. The average cost is £25 to £30, but please do not be put off by this as you can always share with someone. Just contact me and I will arrange it. I can be contacted at church in person, or by telephone 023 8084 3249, or e-mail me at pamela@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk.



FLOWER ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER



- 6th Joy and Roy Funnell for their Wedding Anniversary
- 13th Shirley Herbert in memory of her husband and her brother's birthday
- 20th **HARVEST DONATIONS** see above
- 27th Pamela and Alan Bridge for their 60th Wedding Anniversary

THANK YOU



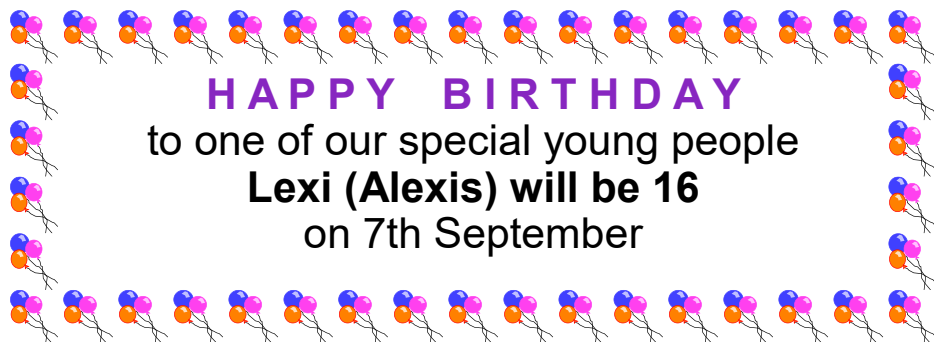
It was lovely to receive the church flowers. I do so appreciate all your thoughts and prayers. *Many thanks,*
Sue Ruddock

To all my friends at Cornerstone. Thank you for the flowers and many phone calls and cards sent during my recent illness—so uplifting. *Thank you again* **Daphne Aldridge**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members and friends at Cornerstone (Hythe URC) for the beautiful flowers which I received on my return home from hospital. Will you please say thank you, on my behalf, to the lovely lady who delivered them. I can't quite recall her name, we had a lovely conversation. **Merle Wills.**

Thank you for the flowers received in late July from Cornerstone and apologies for missing our Summer Newsletter. A very big surprise but really appreciated.

Pat & Peter Dudley.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to one of our special young people

Lexi (Alexis) will be 16

on 7th September

We like to celebrate the birthdays of our younger and older generations. If you are over 80, or turning 80 and are not already included on the newsletter birthday page, but would like to be, please let Joy Funnell know. She is in church most Sunday mornings or email her: joy@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk



SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO

Gill and Lawrence Tabenor

on their **50th Golden Wedding Anniversary**

18th September 2026

Pamela and Alan Bridge

on their **Diamond 60th Wedding Anniversary**

27th September 2026

Can you help? CORNERSTONE CHRISTMAS POST BOX

Are you good at collecting and sorting? Then there's a job just waiting for you! It's organising the Cornerstone Christmas Post Box! Jan Sherlock has been doing this much appreciated task for the last few years – for which we warmly thank her – but it's time for someone else, or perhaps a couple of people, to take on the role of Cornerstone Postie. Could this be YOU?

Please speak to me if you think you can help or want further information. Thank you *Richard*



PRAYING at CORNERSTONE

Prayer is a very important part of the life at Cornerstone. There are opportunities to pray for others and our world or to receive pray for ourselves. You are most welcome to come and share in any of these.



SUNDAY

Before the worship service at 10.15 am, in room 1 our focus is to pray for those leading worship and for God's presence.

After the worship service there is an opportunity to receive prayer for individual needs with our prayer ministry team who will be seated to the right hand side at the front.

MONDAY

Each Monday morning from 10 am to 11 am, Room 1. The focus is to pray for individuals known to us who have requested prayer. We also pray as we are led by God, for the needs of our church, our neighbourhood and the world.

WEDNESDAY

Each Wednesday at 8.30 am to 9.30 am in the Foyer. Similar prayer focus to Monday but for the early risers!

PRAYER POINTERS on the adjacent page are prayer prompts that can be used at home for personal prayer time, but also knowing others are praying the same prayer.

PRAYER SPIDER

The prayer spider enables requests for prayer to be sent out quickly. Ursula receives the requests and emails out to a group who are willing to pray. If you have a prayer request please send it to prayerspider@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk or telephone Ursula on 07835 702371

The Elders and other leaders in the church are always available as a listening ear for support and prayer.

Prayer pointers for September

**Printed on the middle pages so they can be pulled out
and kept somewhere for daily convenience.**

1st Lord we pray for all our Universities, Colleges, Schools and Kindergarten's, may they be places of safety for both the teachers, students, pupils, and young children.

2nd Lord we ask that you will help both the teachers and helpers, calm the fears of all children going to school for the first time, or going up to senior school or above. May these first days in their new school be an enjoyable experience for them, and may they make new friends quickly.

3rd We pray for the administrative staff who help schools to run smoothly, may they find innovative ways to make the budgets go further.

4th We pray for all the Dinner Ladies/Men as they provide and serve many meals in a short period of time for both staff and pupils alike. We pray too that the pupils will be respectful to them.

5th Lord we pray for all the schools and pupils that are not in main stream education for whatever reason, many with special need requirements. We ask that all children will be able to have a full education, have their special needs met, and may each one continue to make strides in their personal levels of achievements.

6th 6th – 13th 'GLOBAL WEEK OF PRAYER' see page 7
Heavenly Father we thank you, Praise, Worship, and Adore you. You are the author of all our days. You have provided our needs, and all that we have is from you. For You are our Awesome God.

7th Lord around the world the earth is parched, and has been subjected to wild fires. The devastation is great. Lives, homes and habitat have been lost. Please be with all the families, and the firefighters. Please renew their strength as they all recover from having to deal with the fires and the resulting outcomes.

8th Please refresh the burnt and parched areas. Please restore all burnt habitats, may there be new growth, plants, trees and the micro-organisms needed within the ground.

Prayer Pointers September continued

9th EMERGENCY SERVICES DAY. Thank you Lord for all our emergency services, the Police, Firefighters, NHS, Coastal Rescue, Caving and mountain rescue. Forgive us, we so often take these services for granted. We forget that they are people just as we are. Please continue to grant them the strength, energy, and knowledge they need for each day. Thank you.

10th Father we thank you for all the agencies that help worldwide, responding to crises caused by war, open conflict, flooding earthquakes and drought, the lists go on. Help them as they prepare to go into places of danger. Sustain each one in their endeavours Lord.

11th We pray for our Government. Please grant our new Prime Minister wise judgement and governance, and Lord we pray too for the safety of all members of parliament regardless of party politics.

12th We pray for the new intake on Care's leadership course as it helps to prepare young men and women to be a Christian voice working in public service roles.

13th Oh Lord with our hearts and voices we praise you, we lay our petitions before you. We ask that you will be with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Many unable to worship openly, many imprisoned for their faith. Speak Lord into their very being, bring them healing, strengthening and encouragement.

14th Lord we again pray for all the schools in our area. Again we would ask that they be places of safety for both teachers and pupils especially as so many young people are gathered together. We ask that your peace and harmony will be over all. We also ask that you will grant answers for the very difficult needs that arise, and also ask that a love of learning will also permeate throughout all students.

15th INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY. Lord we thank you that we do have a democratically appointed government here in the UK. We therefore ask Lord that you will lead, guard, and guide our politicians. We ask that once again our politician's will make good and wise judgements and decisions. We include our local councillors in these prayers, and also ask that they will not give in to any inducements, but that all will be honest and upright. Again Lord we pray for their protection.

16th This month is the traditional month for farmers to gather in their crops. Due to the very hot weather conditions crops have been lost or not produced the expected yields. Lord many farmers rely on their harvest crops to sustain them throughout the year; so we ask again that you will protect and heal their wellbeing, may their worries over lack of production be replaced by a diversification of new projects that will help make up any shortfalls.

Prayer Pointers September continued

17th Lord again many farmers may be in debt as the cost of replacing any equipment is not cheap, and more and more farms are being targeted and having either livestock or machinery stolen. Lord please help all farmers who have suffered from these thefts; and we ask that their property will be found and returned or replaced.

18th We pray for the safety of farmers and their families, so to their workforce when targeted by criminals using their land for illegal hunting. Please Lord keep all safe and well, and may those who perpetrate these crimes be caught.

19th Lord we pray for all our fishermen/women who risk their lives to enable us to enjoy the bounty of the sea. Please keep them safe from harm and grant them safe passage. May new ways of fishing be found that will not damage the sea bed and nets with larger holes to allow more smaller fish to escape.

20th CORNERSTONE HARVEST FESTIVAL. You brought us to your banqueting table, and your banner over us is LOVE. Lord as we bring gifts of food and money, we pray that it will be a blessing for each recipient in need. As we sing the well known hymns of the season, may the words resonate within us, may we be truly thankful of all the gifts you have given us; especially Jesus. Dying for each one of us, and being raised to new life so that all who accept Jesus as their personal Savior may come and stand before the Father unblemished. Thank you Jesus so much.

21st We pray again Lord for our local educational establishments, again asking that they be safe environments for all staff and pupils alike. May your peace flow throughout all premises, and we ask too that all places of learning will once again begin with a shared assembly and a prayer for the day.

22nd Lord we pray for all teenagers who have signed up for a life in the armed forces. For many this will be the first time away from home. So please Lord be with all whose job it is to help them transition from boys and girls into confident men and women. Please may each of them have access to SASRA 's Scripture Readers and also the navel equivalent.

23rd Lord we pray for the work of SASRA (The Soldiers' and Airman's Scripture Readers Association) as they proclaim the good news of Jesus behind the wire, and also when they travel with their unit when posted abroad. Lord please help and sustain them and grant them your wisdom as they seek to help their fellow service personnel when a problem is shared with them. Please continue to fill them with your Holy Spirit and grant them fruitfulness beyond their expectations.

Prayer Pointers September continued

24th **WORLD MARITIME DAY** Dear Lord we pray for seafarers around the world. Many are away from home for months. Please sustain them Lord when far from home and missing their families. Please keep each one safe and well.

25th We pray especially for all seafarers who are trapped in the Straits of Hormuz. Lord please still their anger, frustrations and fear. We ask that the trauma of being held in this way you will heal, and we ask that once again ships from all nations will be able to use this waterway in safety.

26th Lord we continue to pray for our oceans, seas, lakes and rivers. Some of our largest fish start their lives in small inland streams. Forgive us Lord for the way we have neglected and polluted all our waterways, in some cases killing all life contained within it. Not just in this country, but around the world. So much contamination too. Please Lord grant us the wisdom and innovation to be able to restore all sites. Please help us to reverse the effects of Global Warming before more species are lost.

27th Oh Lord, The earth and all that is in it are Yours. Thank you for the beauty of flowers, leaves, trees. Here between the edge of the New Forest and the Southampton Water we are blessed with majestic views. Forgive us Lord when our own views are so small and some not even pleasant. We thank you that we now have a shared minister with Immanuel, Southbourne. We ask that you will continually refresh Joshua as he seeks to teach and spiritually equip both churches. As the crow flies Immanuel is not so far away, but on the Hampshire, Dorset Highways it is another story; may Joshua and his family know your travelling mercies, when travelling around. Please grant Sarah your peace, when Joshua gets home later than planned. Please grant them space to be together as a family, and Lord we ask for a fruitful harvest for both churches.

28th Lord again we bring all our schools, colleges and universities to you. May your spirit of peace and unity flow through all establishments. We ask that the teachers will be able to connect with their pupils in a positive way. Grant all a joy for learning and gaining knowledge, and also in art and team fitness training.

29th We pray for all the young people who are a part of a church and have a Christian faith. Please be with each one. Help them to stand up to the bully who seeks to make sport of them. Lord may there be a Christian Union running in all schools too.

30th Lord we lift the work of Cornerstone and Immanuel to you. Thank you for each person. Please use each and every one of us to help build your kingdom here on earth. Please enable and equip us. Grant us new visions for today and the future, and we thank you and praise you for everything.

IN MEMORY OF

Sadly, it is not until we attend the Thanksgiving Service for the Life of a friend that we discover such amazing things about them. This month we remember three of our friends, Diane Sandy, Kay Mellor and Cynthia Wheller. We continue to hold their friends and family in our prayers.

There is a lot of reading! But do take time to celebrate their lives.

Orders of Service are kept in a file on the foyer bookcase



Diana Sandy

7th February 1948 – 3rd May 2026

Diana was born on 7th February 1948 to Diana and George Emmerson at Peartree Nursing Home in Bitterne, a nursing home run by her aunts and grandmother. She grew up alongside her sister Georgina born three years later and her brother Jim one year after that.

The family first lived in Warren Avenue in Shirley, where Diana spent her early childhood and then after her father was offered a job as boilermaker at Esso Refinery in 1952, the family moved to Fawley. Here Diana attended schools in Fawley and Blackfield where she had no problems passing her 11 plus exam. She was a bright student from an early age and was known as a caring and thoughtful sister, always helping Jim with his homework and often helping Georgina too, and the close bond between the three siblings remained throughout their lives.

She later attended Totton Grammar School, leaving with an impressive ten GCEs and three A Levels. Her childhood in Fawley was filled with family, church, school friends and community life. She was actively involved in the community from a young age, joining the Girl Guides, where she enjoyed camping and proudly earned many badges. Diana was also naturally creative and practical; she was very talented at sewing, embroidery and cross stitch, making clothes and knitting garments for family members, something that remained a lifelong pleasure and skill.

From an early age, faith was an important part of who Diana was and

it remained a guiding thread throughout her life. She attended the local Methodist church Sunday School and at the age of fourteen achieved the highest marks in the Methodist Scripture Exam in the whole of Southern England. During this time the family also began their association with Jehovah's Witnesses while Diana continued to take her Christian faith seriously and was baptised in 1965 just before leaving school.

After leaving school, Diana worked at the Dreamland Electric Blanket factory and the Nat West Bank in Hythe where she was an accounts clerk. When Fawley Power Station was built in 1967, Diana was offered a job as an admin assistant in the Personnel office and later became assistant to the Personnel Manager, but after four happy years and when offered a similar job at the CEGB headquarters in Bristol she accepted it. Diana later moved to Plymouth where she held down various roles including working in a factory preparing crabs before being made redundant and eventually returning to Fawley, where she lived with her parents for four years.

While living with her parents she met Mike Sandy through her mother, who was good friends with Mike's mother Edith. Diana and Mike enjoyed walking in the New Forest and joined the Ramblers Association becoming team leaders. They enjoyed ballroom and sequence dancing, travelling, classic cars and being part of clubs and community groups; Diana had a wonderful sense of adventure and a love of people.

Mike and Diana married on 6th June 1989 at Lymington Register Office and made their home together in their bungalow in Hythe and shared many happy years filled with laughter, dancing, travel and companionship.

In 2001 Diana retired and retirement saw Diana and Mike enjoying memorable journeys across America in a camper van, visiting many different states, as well as travelling to Canada, South Africa and Spain. They loved Spain so much that they eventually settled on the Costa Blanca for several years, although Diana's illness eventually brought them back to England in 2011, where she faced life's challenges with quiet courage and resilience.

Faith and service to others remained central to Diana's life. Alongside Mike, she became a Member of Cornerstone Church in April 2000, volunteering in many different ways and always willing to help

wherever needed. She helped with the Boys' Brigade, served tea and coffee on Sundays and joined the minibus rota as both a driver and escort, something she later benefited from herself.

After Mike's death in 2012, the church community continued to be a great source of comfort and purpose for her. Diana became the Editor of Cornerstone News and devoted much time and care to producing it and the weekly Notice Sheet and other church publications, using her gifts to support and encourage others.

Diana treasured her close relationship with Mike's daughter Debbie who in 2007 had reconnected with her father and came to know Diana, and the two built a very warm and lasting relationship. Diana especially loved spending time with Debbie's daughter Sabrina and during visits to Spain happily taught her to cook when Sabrina was just eight years old. Diana also loved becoming part of the lives of her two great-granddaughters and treasured every opportunity to spend time with them.

As Diana's health began to worsen from 2016 onwards, Georgina and Jim and Cornerstone friends were always there to support her with hospital visits, shopping and everyday needs. Even as her mobility became more limited, Diana continued to enjoy visits from family and friends, watching dramas and documentaries, reading fiction and non-fiction books, completing crossword puzzles and using her iPad for games, emails and online shopping. She kept her curious mind active and remained determined to stay connected with the world around her. Her love of knitting also continued and in 2017, shortly after her mother's funeral, she was still knitting hats for the Seamen's Mission. Even then, Diana still wanted to help others wherever she could.

Diana will be remembered for her gentle spirit, her dedication to others, her creativity, and her quiet but steadfast faith in Jesus Christ. She lived with kindness, curiosity and compassion, and she leaves behind many happy memories for family, friends and all whose lives she touched. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered always.



In memory of
Kay Mellor
30th May 1947 – 9th June 2026

Kay was born and grew up in the Pennington area of the New Forest, where she attended the local schools. She was an only child but grew up across the road from her cousin Yvonne.

She married and was blessed with three children, Nick, then Jo and the youngest Steve.

In her early years Kay worked at Waterside curtains in Hythe and Steve spent many a school holiday in the shop with her. She taught Steve how to set up a sewing machine and would let him play making patterns and sewing off cuts together. He still sews to this day, but not to Kay's standard, which included making a wedding dress for a friend. Kay also worked for Avon for a while and her final job was as a warden at Langdown Firs in Hythe.

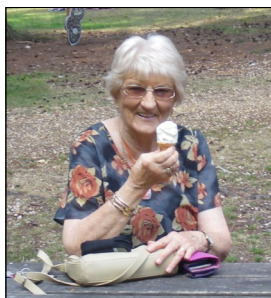
Kay was a caring and happy person and always pleased to see you and enjoy a natter over a coffee. She went out with Call and Go each week to get her shopping, although the shopping was just a distraction from chatting with the other people on the bus. When out in Hythe there would usually be someone who would say 'Hi' or stop for a chat.

She first suffered from a stroke late in 2022 and more recently was diagnosed with early stages of dementia. But coming down to Cornerstone and attending the Memory Group and enjoying the chats she had and the trips they went on helped her feel more at ease with her condition.

A usual highlight of her week was taking daughter Jo out on a Thursday which often included lunch at BB's, where she was known as a regular customer. And a couple of weeks before she died she had a really enjoyable mini-break with Jo in Bournemouth, followed by a lovely day celebrating her 77th birthday with her family. Fridays was usually yoga with coffee and chat before and after, of course.

But she particularly valued coming along to the worship at Cornerstone on Sundays, where she felt very welcome and cared for and this brought extra joy and peace into her life.

Kay was valued and loved by her family and friends, will always be remembered and will be greatly missed.



In memory of
Cynthia Wheeler
27th December 1929—June 2026

Cynthia was born in Dundee in Natal, South Africa on 27th December 1929. They later moved to Durban where she was educated at a Catholic School. She took up highland dancing and held the Championship for three years. When Cynthia left school she took a job in the George Payne Tea Factory where she worked from 7am to 5pm. She moved on to work in the dress pattern department at the Daily Mercury. Then as a junior for a firm of Solicitors. One of her hobbies was playing the bugle in the women's Part Time Army. Another change of job to work on the switchboard at the Model Dairy, which was a bakery as well. She would send some snowball cakes to her RAF boyfriend who worked in the docks. She and her friends would often have meals on the ships, and they joined the Merchant Navy Officers Club. Her last job was at the Corporation Exchange local branch and City Hall. While there she was invited to dinner with some friends on the ship Kilwa. It was then that she met Bob. They fell in love at their first meeting and went out together each evening, and on the 7th day he proposed and they were married 3 days later at the Missions to Seamen Chapel. She moved to Mombasa so that she could stay on the ship with Bob while his ship was there and be able to fly down to Dar-es-Salaam and Zanzibar when Bob's ship was in those ports. She left Mombasa by ship in January arriving in Plymouth where she was met by Bob's father. They travelled to Southampton on a cold February night where she met Bob's mother. Bob's ship arrived in London in May but as there was a dock strike they had to sail to Antwerp the next day. In June his ship returned to Middlesbrough and after his replacement arrived he was able to come home. They moved into their first home in Southampton where they had to share a kitchen with 2 other ladies. They were hard times and they had very little money. Her first son Philip was born and seventeen months later Gordon was born. Then Bob got a job with Esso, and they got a council house. It was here that Shirley was born. They eventually moved to Dale Road in Hythe. By now the family were all

grown up and all got married from this address. So they decided to move to Scotland, but Bob was not well there and wanted to return to Hythe where he loved to watch the ships coming and going. Cynthia became a member of our church in October 2012 and later joined Women's Guild. After Bob died her eyes began to give her trouble and as her sight deteriorated she moved into Homeborough House. Later, after she had been registered blind for some time, she went to live in Tendring Care Home, Totton, where she was well looked after, happy and content. She died in June 2026 at the age of 96. She requested no funeral or memorial service, and her ashes to be scattered at sea, as Bobs had been. She was a good friend, generous and loving and I miss her. She leaves a daughter and two sons, 4 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. *Joy Funnell*

REGULAR ACTIVITIES update

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 5th September at 8.30 am

For details please contact Dave Symmonds
call/text 07747698910 or e-mail:

mensbreakfast@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk



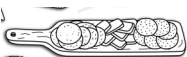
PINS AND NEEDLES

10.00 am to 12 noon

Every Friday morning in the Foyer

We are a friendly group who meet for two hours on a Friday morning in the Foyer as we knit, sew and crochet.

Tea, coffee and pleasant conversation are always available.



SUNDAY PICNIC LUNCH

Next lunch Sunday 12th September after worship

On the second Sunday of each month there is a get-together picnic lunch in the hall, after worship and coffee. All are welcome to stay and enjoy a time of fellowship together



REGULAR ACTIVITIES update

WOMEN'S GUILD

You will be very welcome to join us at any of our meetings in Room 1
at Cornerstone on

2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons from 2.15 pm to 3.30 pm

SEPTEMBER PROGRAMME

**10th American Adventure
(part 2) Jytta and Liz**



24th Easy Table Quiz

plus Bring & Buy Table at each meeting

For further information please contact

Joy Funnell on 023 8084 3404

or e-mail guild@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

HYPHE HUDDLE



**Wednesday 2nd September
Wednesday 1st October**



Drop in support group for people living with dementia and their
carers who meet on the first Wednesday of each month
between 2 pm to 4 pm



For more information contact us

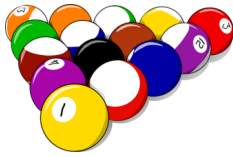
0238020 76 23

office@families-matter.org.uk



A sincere thank you from Pat and Peter Dudley We attended Family Matters AGM in July and heard the news and events along with the great and wonderful things happening via the various groups. The hard and dedicated work put in by Laura, the staff and volunteers is amazing. A grateful thank you to everyone. So Peter & I were taken by surprise when Peter Blasby called our attention and said some very kind words then presented us with a card, flowers and a gift voucher. He thanked us for our time spent at Huddle. While leading the afternoon meetings for some time, we have met some wonderful people and friends with whom we shared laughter, joys and sometimes tears. So as we step down from leading we will continue to support Huddle as often as we possibly can. Again a very humble thank you for our gifts. God Bless *Pat & Peter Dudley*

REGULAR ACTIVITIES update



YOUTH CLUB

For 11 to 18 Year Olds

**7.30 pm to 9.00 pm
alternate Fridays**



We will be meeting on Friday 4th and 18th September

For further details and programmes please contact

Dave Symmonds

Email : youthclub@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

7.00 pm to 9.00 pm - alternate Fridays



We meet in the Youth Lounge for chat, Bible study and prayer.

This is for young people 13 to 18, who want to learn more about being a Christian through studying God's word together in a relaxed and fun way.

We will be meeting on Friday 11th and 25th September

For more details please contact Dave Symmonds



TODDLER GROUP



10.00 am every Wednesday (during term time)
starts again **Wednesday 9th September**

A warm welcome awaits you at the weekly Toddler Group with the opportunity for creative play, chatting, having a cuppa and always a listening ear. No need to book, just come along.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES update



TABLE TOP SALES

9.30am – 12 noon

start again on

Tuesday 15th September

They are then held every two weeks, so the following dates are

Dates for your diary

29th September, 13th and 27th October,

10th and 24th November

and the last one before Christmas is on **8th December.**

The goods have been refreshed over the summer with some new items, so there'll be a great selection of:

Jig-saw Puzzles – great variety and sizes

Paperback Books – extensive library!

Electrical items

Collectables

Tableware

Jewellery

Kitchenware

Glassware

Bags

CDs and DVDs

Toys

New goods are arriving all the time, so it's a great opportunity to get a good bargain!

Of course, it's also a great time for fellowship with coffee, tea and biscuits always available in the Foyer! All proceeds go to the Cornerstone Outreach Fund. So don't miss it!

HYTHE ACTIVE EXERCISE GROUP

Every Thursday at 10.00am

In the hall at Cornerstone for exercise and fellowship.

starts again on Thursday 10th September



Why not come along and try? You can do as much or as little of the exercises as you choose, and some attendees remain seated. Its an enjoyable time, and there is good evidence that strength and balance exercises reduce the risk of falls in older age.

Cornerstone Diary - at a glance

The Cornerstone website shows all current bookings
cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk and click the what's on button
 The website includes other groups using the building

Every Monday to Saturday 10 am to 12 noon

CORNERSTONE CUPPA

Come and join us for a cuppa and a natter

SEPTEMBER 2026

Tues	1	HOMEGROUP WEEK
Weds	2	8.30 am—9.30 am Early Morning Prayers 2 pm Hythe Huddle Drop In
Thurs	3	
Fri	4	10 am to 12 noon Pins and Needles 7.30 pm Youth Club
Sat	5	8.30 am Men's Breakfast
Sun	6	10.30 am Morning Worship also available on-line
Mon	7	8 am to 8 pm Global Week of Prayer—creative prayer stations in worship area 10.00 am Daytime Prayers will meet in worship area with Global Week of Prayer.
Tues	8	8 am to 8 pm Global Week of Prayer—creative prayer stations in worship area
Weds	9	8 am to 8 pm Global Week of Prayer—creative prayer stations in worship area 8.30 am—9.30am Early Morning Prayers 10 am Toddler Group starts for the term
Thurs	10	8 am to 8 pm Global Week of Prayer—creative prayer stations in worship area 10 am - 11 am Hythe Active Exercise Group 2.15 pm Women's Guild
Fri	11	8 am to 8 pm Global Week of Prayer—creative prayer stations in worship area 10 am to 12 noon Pins and Needles 7.30 pm Youth Bible Study
Sat	12	8 am to 8 pm Global Week of Prayer—creative prayer stations in worship area

SEPTEMBER 2026 continued

Sun	13	10.30 am Morning Worship also available on-line Followed by Bring your own lunch
Mon	14	HOMEGROUP WEEK 10.00 am Daytime Prayers
Tues	15	9.30 am to 12 noon Table Top Sale 10.30 am Fundraising Group Meeting
Weds	16	8.30 am—9.30 am Early Morning Prayers 10 am Toddler Group 7.30 pm Elders Meeting
Thurs	17	10 am—11 am Hythe Active Exercise Group
Fri	18	10 am to 12 noon Pins and Needles 7.30 pm Youth Club
Sat	19	
Sun	20	10.30 am Morning Worship also available on-line HARVEST CELEBRATION Worship followed by Baked Potato lunch DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWLETTER ITEMS
Mon	21	10.00 am Daytime Prayers
Tues	22	
Weds	23	8.30 am—9.30 am Early Morning Prayers 10 am Toddler Group
Thurs	24	10 am - 11 am Hythe Active Exercise Group 2.15 pm Women's Guild
Fri	25	10 am to 12 noon Pins and Needles 7.30 pm Youth Club
Sat	26	
Sun	27	10.30 am Morning Worship also available on-line Church Meeting after Morning Worship
Mon	28	10.00 am Daytime Prayers
Tues	29	9.30 am to 12 noon Table Top Sale Evangelism and Fellowship meeting
Weds	30	8.30 am—9 am Early Morning Prayers 10 am Toddler Group

Worship in September

Date	Speaker	Theme
6th	Revd Doug Barnett	Hebrews 12: 1—29 Running the Race Service to include Communion
13th	Revd Joshua Norris	Hebrews 13: 1—25 Love One Another
20th	A ² Team	Harvest Celebration
27th	Revd Joshua Norris	1 Peter 1 Holy Living (the start of new series on 1 & 2 Peter)

Worship at Cornerstone

Morning worship at Cornerstone starts at 10.30am every Sunday and all are welcome.

Services are also streamed live via our YouTube channel <https://bit.ly/CornerstoneHytheURC> and the recording of the service will be available on YouTube afterwards.

Singing is a full part of our worship with a mix of songs and hymns accompanied mostly by videos shown on the big screens or by organ, piano or occasionally by a small worship group.

After the service, there will be opportunity for **private prayer** in a corner of the worship area and **Coffee and Tea** will be served in the main hall, where people enjoy fellowship together.